

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING**

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BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE

NURSE ANESTHETISTS

Division 2. Healing Arts; Chapter 6. Nursing; Article 7. Nurse Anesthetists

2825. Short Title

This article may be cited as the Nurse Anesthetists Act.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2826. Definitions

As used in this article:

(a) "Nurse anesthetist" means a person who is a registered nurse, licensed by the board and who has met standards for certification from the board. In the certification and recertification process the board shall consider the standards of the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists and the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists and may develop new standards if there is a public safety need for standards more stringent than the councils' standards. In determining the adequacy for public safety of the councils' standards or in developing board standards, the board shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(b) "Accredited Program" means a program for the education of nurse anesthetists which has received approval from the board. In the approval process the board shall consider the standards of the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs and Schools and may develop new standards if the councils' standards are determined to be inadequate for public safety. In determining the adequacy for public safety of the councils' standards or in developing board standards, the board shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(c) "Appropriate committee" means the committee responsible for anesthesia practice which is responsible to the executive committee of the medical staff.

(d) "Trainee" means a registered nurse enrolled in an accredited program of nurse anesthesia.

(e) "Graduate" means a nurse anesthetist who is a graduate of an accredited program of nurse anesthesia awaiting initial certification results for not more than one year from the date of graduation.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2827. Utilization; Acute Care Facility; Approval; Dental Offices

The utilization of a nurse anesthetist to provide anesthesia services in an acute care facility shall be approved by the acute care facility administration and the appropriate committee, and at the discretion of the physician, dentist or podiatrist. If a general anesthetic agent is administered in a dental office, the dentist shall hold a permit authorized by Section 1646.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2828. Subjection to Bylaws of Acute Care Facility; Liability for Professional Acts

In an acute care facility, a nurse anesthetist who is not an employee of the facility shall, nonetheless, be subject to the bylaws of the facility and may be required by the facility to provide proof of current professional liability insurance coverage. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nurse anesthetist shall be responsible for his or her own professional conduct and may be held liable for those professional acts.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2829. Use of Title

It is unlawful for any person or persons to advertise, use any title, sign, card, or device, or to otherwise hold himself or herself out as a "nurse anesthetist" unless the person meets the requirements of subdivision (a) of Section 2826 and has been so certified under the provisions of this article.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2830. Certificate to Practice; Issuance to Qualified Person

The board shall issue a certificate to practice nurse anesthesia to any person who qualifies under this article and is licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2830.5. Evidence of Qualifications; Presentation by Applicant

Every applicant shall show by evidence satisfactory to the board that he or she has met the requirements of this article.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2830.6. Certification; Standards; Documentation; Filing; Issuance of Certificate

Notwithstanding Section 2830, the board shall certify all applicants who can show certification by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists or the Council on Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists as of the effective date of this chapter. This certification shall be documented to the board in a manner to be determined by the board. Proof of certification shall be filed with the board within six months from the effective date of this article and the board shall, within one year from the effective date of this article, issue a certificate to applicants who have filed proof of certification within that six-month period.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2830.7. Fee Schedule

The amount of the fees prescribed by this chapter in connection with the issuance of certificates as nurse anesthetists is that fixed by the following schedule:

(a) The fee to be paid upon the filing of an application for a certificate shall be fixed by the board at not less than seventy-five dollars (\$75) nor more than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

(b) The biennial fee to be paid upon the application for a renewal of a certificate shall be fixed by the board at not less than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

(c) The penalty fee for failure to renew a certificate within the prescribed time shall be 50 percent of the renewal fee in effect on the date of the renewal of the license, but not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50).

(Added by Stats. 1991, c. 352 (AB 485), § 4.5.)

2831. Written Application; Fee; Submission

An applicant for certification pursuant to this article shall submit a written application in the form prescribed by the board, accompanied by the fee prescribed by Section 2830.7 which shall also apply to the issuance of a certificate under the provisions of this article.

(Amended by Stats. 1991, c. 352 (AB 485), § 5.)

2832. Applicants; Compliance with Provisions of Article

Every applicant for a certificate to practice nurse anesthesia shall comply with all the provisions of this article in addition to the provisions of this chapter.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2833. Certificates; Biennial Renewal; Fee; Expiration; Reinstatement

Each certificate issued pursuant to this article shall be renewable biennially, and each person holding a certificate under this article shall apply for a renewal of his or her certificate and pay the biennial renewal fee required by Section 2830.7 every two years on or before the last day of the month following the month in which his or her birthday occurs, beginning with the second birthday following the date on which the certificate was issued, whereupon the board shall renew the certificate.

Each certificate not renewed in accordance with this section shall expire but may within a period of eight years thereafter be reinstated upon payment of the biennial renewal fee and penalty fee required by Section 2830.7 and upon submission of such proof of the applicant's qualifications as may be required by the board, except that during that eight-year period no examination shall be required as a condition for the reinstatement of any expired certificate which has lapsed solely by reason of nonpayment of the renewable fee. After the expiration of the eight-year period the board may require as a condition of reinstatement that the applicant pass an examination as it deems necessary to determine his or her present fitness to resume the practice of nurse anesthesia.

(Amended by Stats. 1991, c. 352 (AB 485), § 6.)

2833.3. Inapplicability of Article to Practice of Nursing

Nothing in this article shall be construed to limit a certified nurse anesthetist's ability to practice nursing.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2833.5. Practice of Nurse Anesthetist to Not Confer Authority to Practice Medicine or Surgery

Except as provided in Section 2725 and in this section, the practice of nurse anesthetist does not confer authority to practice medicine or surgery.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)

2833.6. Inapplicability of Chapter to Scope of Practice of Nurse Anesthetist

This chapter is not intended to address the scope of practice of, and nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict, expand, alter, or modify the existing scope of practice of, a nurse anesthetist.

(Added by Stats. 1983, c. 696, § 7.)